

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

/051 W

-----082348Z 117123 /70

R 081613Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8900

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 09707

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, XP, GW

SUBJECT: VISIT OF TONGAN PRIME MINISTER

REFS: A. BONN 5010 (NOTAL); B. BONN 7215 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE VISIT OF TONGAN PRIME MINISTER
PRINCE TU'IPELEHAKE TO THE FRG MAY 31-JUNE 5 WAS ANOTHER
INDICATION OF RENEWED GERMAN INTEREST IN THE SOUTH
PACIFIC. DURING THE VISIT HE SIGNED A TREATY OF
FRIENDSHIP WITH THE FRG AND A TECHNICAL COOPERATION
AGREEMENT. THE GERMANS INDICATED THEY WERE PREPARED TO
GRANT AID TO THE EXTENT OF 5 MILLION DM FOR IMPROVING
THE TONGATAPU AIRPORT AND 1.5 MILLION DM FOR AGRICULTURE
PROJECTS PROVIDED CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET.
HOWEVER, GERMAN OFFICIALS HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE ABILITY
OF THE TONGANS TO MAKE EFFECTIVE USE OF DEVELOPMENT
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ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING THE MAY 31-JUNE 5 VISIT OF TU'IPELEHAKE TO
BONN, BERLIN AND HAMBURG THE TONGAN PRIME MINISTER
SIGNED A TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP WHICH UPDATED THE ONE-
HUNDRED YEAR OLD ORIGINAL. THE PRINCE ALSO SIGNED A
TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND THE GERMANS INDI-

CATED A WILLINGNESS TO GRANT A 6.5 MILLION DM DEVELOPMENT AID PROGRAM OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

2. THE VISIT RECEIVED A FAVORABLE PRESS IN THE FRG BUT GERMAN OFFICIALS TELL US THAT, EXCEPT FOR THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENTS, THE TONGANS HAD VERY LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE TO SAY. IT WAS THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, FROM THE FEW COMMENTS THE PRINCE MADE THAT THE TONGANS ARE PERHAPS LESS READY TO USE THE SOVIET CARD (I.E., THE OFFER OF SOVIET DEVELOPMENT AID) THAN THEY WERE A YEAR AGO AS A MEANS TO OBTAIN AID FROM THE WEST.

3. THE VISIT DID NOTHING TO CLEAR UP THE QUESTION WHETHER THE TONGANS WILL USE THE GERMAN SHIPPING LINE, HAMBURG SUED, OR THE DANISH LINE, LAURITZEN, FOR THE SHIPPING AID PROJECT. IN GENERAL, THE WEST GERMANS FEEL THAT THE TONGANS HAVE DONE LITTLE IN THE WAY OF PREPARATION SO THAT THE COUNTRY COULD MAKE PRACTICAL USE OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THE GERMANS ARE UNWILLING TO UNDERTAKE THE PROJECT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE TONGATAPU AIRPORT UNLESS IT IS A JOINT PROJECT AND CONFORMS WITH THE FEASIBILITY STUDY WHICH IS NOW BEING DONE BY THE AUSTRALIANS.

4. WHILE THIS LATEST VISIT IS A FURTHER INDICATION OF RENEWED GERMAN INTEREST IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT MAINTAINS A CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE ABOUT ITS ROLE IN THE AREA. WHILE WILLING TO HELP WITH DEVELOPMENT AID, THE GERMANS REQUIRE THAT THE

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RECIPIENTS BE PREPARED TO UTILIZE EFFECTIVELY WHATEVER ASSISTANCE THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC EXTENDS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN09707
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770205-0018
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770680/aaaacrye.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BONN 5010, 77 BONN 7215
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2238918
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF TONGAN PRIME MINISTER
TAGS: EAID, OVIP, XP, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a0103a83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009